

## REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the subject application. This Response is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed November 17, 2005. Claims 1-20, 34-40, 42-53 and 55-61 stand rejected. In this Amendment, claims 2, 5, 12, 15, 21, 26, 36, 41, 49, 54, and 56-61 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

### 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 5, 12-18, 26-28, 34-40, 45-47, 49-52, 55 and 61 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ugawa (U.S. Patent No. 5,836,819, hereinafter "Ugawa"). The Examiner has rejected claims 3, 4 and 48 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ugawa in view of Pierce, et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,139,013, hereinafter "Pierce"). The Examiner has rejected claims 6-8, 10 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ugawa in view of Sines, et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,203,009, hereinafter "Sines"). The Examiner has rejected claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ugawa in view of Sines, as applied to claim 6-8 above, in further view of Lynch, et al. (Great Britain Patent No. 2,243,236A, hereinafter "Lynch"). The Examiner has rejected claims 19 and 53 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ugawa in view of Peters (U.S. Patent No. 4,508,343, hereinafter "Peters"). The Examiner has rejected claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ugawa in view of Peters, as applied to claim 19

above, in further view of Tastad (U.S. Patent No. 5,194,094, hereinafter "Tastad"). The Examiner has rejected claims 43 and 44 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ugawa in view of Eriko, et al. (Japanese Patent No. 09-103,541, hereinafter "Eriko"). The Examiner has rejected claims 56 and 57 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ugawa in view of Adams (U.S. Patent No. 5,882,261, hereinafter "Adams"). The Examiner has rejected claim 58 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ugawa in view of Adams, as applied to claim 56 above, in further view of Bennett (U.S. Patent No. 5,085,436, hereinafter "Bennett"). The Examiner has rejected claims 59 and 60 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ugawa in view of Adams, as applied to claim 56 above, in further view of Heinen, et al. (German Patent No. 3638100A, hereinafter "Heinen").

Applicants have amended the claims 21, 41 and 54 to be independent claims, which the Examiner indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant, accordingly, respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1, 2, 5, 12-18, 26-28, 34-40, 45-47, 49-52, 55 and 61 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ugawa (U.S. Patent No. 5,836,819, hereinafter "Ugawa"). Applicant, accordingly, respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claims 3, 4 and 48 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ugawa in view of Pierce. Applicant, accordingly, respectfully requests

withdrawal of the rejections of claims 6-8, 10 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ugawa in view of Sines. Applicant, accordingly, respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ugawa in view of Sines, as applied to claim 6-8 above, in further view of Lynch. Applicant, accordingly, respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claims 19 and 53 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ugawa in view of Peters. Applicant, accordingly, respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ugawa in view of Peters, as applied to claim 19 above, in further view of Tastad. Applicant, accordingly, respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claims 43 and 44 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ugawa in view of Eriko. Applicant, accordingly, respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claims 56 and 57 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ugawa in view of Adams. Applicant, accordingly, respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claim 58 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ugawa in view of Adams, as applied to claim 56 above, in further view of Bennett. Applicant, accordingly, respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claims 59 and 60 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ugawa in view of Adams, as applied to claim 56 above, in further view of Heinen.

Allowable Subject Matter

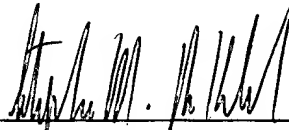
The Examiner objected to claims 21-33, 41 and 54 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended claims 21, 41 and 54 into independent form. Claims 2-17, 22-40, 42-53 and 55-61 are dependent on one of the foregoing independent claims. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call Stephen M. De Klerk at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overages to Deposit Account No. 02-2666. Any necessary extension of time for response not already requested is hereby requested. Please charge any corresponding fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP



Stephen M. De Klerk  
Reg. No. 46,503

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12400 Wilshire Blvd.  
Seventh Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026